

FEB 08 2002

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

m/003/031

D. Wayne Hedberg – Permit Supervisor
State of Utah
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Feb. 6, 2002

RE: Proposed "Route Changes" @ Grouse Creek L.M.O.

Dear Wayne,

The operator here proposes route changes to portions of existing mine roads at three specific sites within the Grouse Creek L.M.O. in Box Elder County, Utah. Please find accompanying, a "site map" which demonstrates the location of each proposed route change. (It will be necessary to use the general "Area Map" for the Grouse Creek L.M.O. as you review the "site map" for route changes as here submitted). The proposed route changes have been identified as Route "A", Route "B", and Route "C".

ROUTE 'A': This route generally was the subject of a letter mailed to Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (UDOGM) on Aug. 27, 2001 (please see enclosed copy), and subsequently addressed by the Division. This route as proposed lies entirely upon private land, and will consist of a series of switch backs to resolve grade until it reaches a location just above and adjacent to the streamlet below (to the south). The route will then follow the general contour of the streamlet west and north west until it joins the "north Slide" or "north canyon" road in the SE ¼ NE ¼ sec. 4 T 12 N. R 17 W. A portion of area road B-6 as shown, which was scheduled for reclamation will need to remain open as part of the diversion. It is further proposed that all of area road A-2 remain open rather than undergo planned reclamation. That portion of area road B-6 not implicated in the proposed "route A" changes will be reclaimed as scheduled prior to commencing any construction of route A.

ROUTE "A" specs. Length: 3,952' (including 520' of existing B-6)
 Width: 18'
 Acreage 1.66 approx.

ROUTE 'B': This proposed route change is an effort to better network the SITLA Lease area in Sec. 2 with the Grouse Creek Livestock Association (GCLA) Lease in the North Canyon area of Sec. 34, and lies upon Federal Lands within the NE ¼ Sec. 3. Presently the Area Map shows a portion of road coming from near the canyon bottom, running north up the side of the canyon. (please see N/S cross-hatch lines). This road portion is extremely steep, and it is impossible to negotiate with loaded shuttle trucks. The other non-navigable portion is directly adjacent and runs east and west (please see E/W cross-hatch lines). This portion can presently be traveled down slope to the west,

but is much too steep with deep loose rock to be negotiated up slope to the east. Deep ruts are evident, and would continue to degrade if used. "Route "B" shows a possible resolution by traveling NW/SE along contour and funneling all haulage from Sec.2 onto the North Slide road for exit from the area. Construction of this route change as proposed would likely require the use of drilling and blasting techniques to insure level grade across it's length. The presently unfeasible portions of the existing haul roads as shown would be reclaimed prior to commencing construction on proposed route change. Reclamation would consist of ripping existing road, seeding as directed, and blocking all "end points".

ROUTE "B" Specs. : Length: 676'
 Width: 18'
 Acreage: .283

ROUTE "C" : The area map indicates an existing haul road running N/S with the south end at or near the section line between Secs. 34 and 3 (please see N/S cross-hatch line) This road portion is extremely steep in grade. Too steep to be feasibly navigated from down slope (south to north) with loaded shuttle trucks. Route "C" which lies entirely on Private land as proposed shows a possible resolution. By routing west at a subdued grade then switching back to the east and north east until it joins the existing haul road which abuts the North Slide road. That portion of the existing haul road not suitable for travel will be reclaimed prior to commencing any construction of the proposed route changes. Reclamation will consist of ripping the existing road, seeding, and blocking both "end points".

ROUTE "C" Specs. : Length: 1,820'
 Width: 18'
 Acreage: .764

The operator will secure a written support of these proposed route changes from the GCLA along with signed testimony as to GCLA desire that said routes, as applicable remain as constructed "post mining" for utilization in area livestock maintenance (specifically Routes "A, and "C").

Equipment required to carry out proposed reclamation and construction will consist of a dozer, a front-end loader, and a drill and compressor. Any explosives utilized will be brought on site, loaded and shot the same day. There will be no on-site storage of explosives.

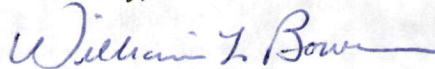
Total disturbed acreage proposed route changes:	2.707
" " " " " " reclaimed:	<u>0.982</u>
" " " per " " "	1.725

It should be noted that with regard to affected Federal Lands (Route "B") there are .283 acres of proposed disturbance while .291 acs. Federal Lands are proposed for reclamation.

The operator is aware that a site inspection with all involved (DOGM, BLM, GCLA, and Operator) in attendance, will likely be required relative to this proposal. It is possible and probable that such an inspection may reveal superior locations for some or all of the route changes here proposed. The operator would certainly welcome the comments of those more qualified in these matters. Based on the degree of winter conditions in this area, this year, it is likely that a site inspection will not be possible any sooner than late May, 2002.

Please let me know if this information is sufficient to begin this process, or if not, what additional information may be required. Thank you for your review of this initial information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William L. Bown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

William L Bown

33

N
W + E
S

4

B-6

Route "A"

A-6

34

B-7
B-8

Route "C"

A-2

A-4

A-3

B-9

A-5

Route "B"

35

2

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

PROPOSED ROUTE CHANGE - A, B, C
EXISTING ROUTES/RECLAIM

m/003/03/
GROUSE CREEK L.M.O.
ROUTE CHANGES MAP

B-5